

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A method for controlling a speed of a vehicle to be regulated, comprising:  
     detecting at least one vehicle traveling ahead within a radar detection range using a radar sensor of the vehicle to be regulated; and  
     undertaking an acceleration limitation in the vehicle to be regulated when, in a neighboring lane provided for vehicles having greater travel speed, a vehicle is moving at a lower speed than the vehicle to be regulated.
2. The method according to claim 1, wherein a magnitude of the acceleration limitation is a function of a distance of the vehicle in the neighboring lane from the vehicle to be regulated and of a speed of the vehicle in the neighboring lane with respect to the vehicle to be regulated.
3. The method according to claim 1, wherein a limiting value of the acceleration limitation has one of a zero value and a negative value corresponding to a drag delay when the vehicle in the neighboring lane is at one of a small distance and a medium distance from the vehicle to be regulated, and wherein the limiting value has a positive value when the vehicle to be regulated is at a greater distance.
4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the acceleration limitation of the vehicle to be regulated takes effect only above a predefined minimum speed.
5. The method according to claim 3, wherein the negative value is about  $-0.5 \text{ m/s}^2$  at a distance of about 5 to 60m, and the positive value is about  $+0.1$  to  $+0.25 \text{ m/s}^2$ .
6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the neighboring lane is a left-side lane.
7. The method according to claim 1, wherein the neighboring lane is a right-side lane.

8. The method according to claim 1, further comprising lifting the acceleration limitation more slowly in response to a change in conditions for the acceleration limitation, an acceleration limit increasing in a time-delayed manner.